

Dear waiting body of Christ,

These notes are directly from a YouTube by Pastor Mark Biltz, "Spots, Wrinkles and Blemishes".

As we wait to hear that great call from above, I thought I'd share some ways I've tried to prepare for the Lord, especially since Ephesians 5:27 says, "That He might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish". So what are spots, wrinkles and blemishes, and how can we be sure we are free from them if we know not what they are?

Since the New Testament is the Old Testament revealed, and because we are called N.T. priests, there lies our answer in the book of Leviticus about the O.T. priests, where are 12 specific blemishes, 3 spots and one wrinkle listed in Scripture.

BLIND: Can you think of any verses about being blind? How about in 1 John 2:9-11 about he who hates his brother walks in darkness. Or 2 Cor. 3:4 about the god of this world blinding the minds of them who believe not. See Mt. 23:24 (blind guides) & 2 Peter 1:5-9, talking about growing in faith, but he who lacks these things is blind...

LAME: Have you ever heard of the term, that sounds like a lame excuse? Prov. 26:7, "The legs of the lame are not equal: so is a parable in the mouth of fools." Prov. 20:10...like having one standard for yourself, and another standard for others.

FLAT NOSE: Song of Solomon 7:4, your nose is like the tower of Lebanon. Ever heard the term, "I smell a rat?" Discernment is tied to the senses as in Heb. 5:14, Strong meat belongs to them... who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. Heb. 12:13, the word is a discerner... See 1 Cor. 2:14. 2 Pet. 2:9-12, God knows how to reserve the unjust to the day of judgment to be punished. (spots they are and blemishes).

ANYTHING SUPERFLUOUS: To stretch out self, a man of the flesh. Deut. 4:2, do not add to God's commands. Prov. 30:5,6 and Rev. 22:18, "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book"

BROKEN FOOT: Prov. 4:26,27... ponder the path of your feet, remove your feet from evil. Is. 65:2, Do not walk in a way not good, after your own thoughts. Jer. 10:23, it is not in us to direct our own steps. A broken foot affects your ability to stand firm. See Prov. 25:19.

2 Cor. 4:2, not walking in craftiness. Repentance, Mark teaches includes a change of mind, heart AND behavior.

CROOKED BACK, or HUNCH BACK: Mark 4:18,19 And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word, And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. 1 Pet. 5:7 tells us to cast our cares on Christ. Not finding our rest in Christ. See Mat. 11:28,30 and Gal. 6:2.

DWARF: Perfect in form & function but below the standard. Immature. 2 Pet. 2:2, desire the sincere milk of the word so you may grow thereby. 2 Pet. 3:10, grow in grace. Eph. 4:14,15, be no more children, grow up into Him in all things. See 1 Cor. 13:11. 1 Cor. 3:2, you couldn't bear the meat of the word.

BLEMISH IN EYE: Lev. 21:20, distorted vision. Rom 2:1-5, you're without excuse all who judge as you do the very same things. Prov. 30:12, a generation pure in own eyes yet not washed from your own filthiness. See Is. 11:3³ And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:

SCURVY: As in our bodies, a lack of the fruit of the Spirit in our souls. A result from an inadequate diet. Paul said he failed not to teach the whole counsel of God. Acts 20:27,28, I'm not ashamed to teach the whole counsel of God. What happens to your kids if you only feed them cookies and icecream? We need God's rebukes and warnings as much as His encouragements.

SCABS: Mainly of the scalp. Ps. 68:21 "But God shall wound the head of his enemies, and the hairy scalp of such an one as goeth on still in his trespasses." Is. 3:16,17... Moreover the LORD saith, Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, and walk with stretched forth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go, and making a tinkling with their feet: Therefore the LORD will smite with a scab the crown of the head of the daughters of Zion, and the LORD will discover their secret parts. See Prov. 6:16 for the list of the 6 things the Lord hates.

STONES BROKEN: Inability to reproduce. We're told to go make disciples. Gal 4:18,19, about a man travailing in birth til Christ be formed in you. In John 15:8 we read about bearing much fruit, so that we may be His disciples. 1 Tim. 2:2, teach others... Col 1:10, "That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God..."

THE 3 SPOTS:

THE WAY OF CAIN How would you describe it off the top of your head? Jude 12, woe to those who go the way of Cain. He was full of envy, jealous, a murderer (which we are told we are if we hate a brother), full of wrath. A man of the flesh, although he was religious. He didn't offer God His best. James 1:27 describes what pure religion is. Gal. 5:19-21 describes the fruit of the flesh.

THE ERROR OF BALAM: He loved the wages of unrighteousness, was self-willed and disobedient. 2 Pet. 2:13-15 "And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you, Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness" See Rev. 2:14 about the danger of not supporting Israel, as we're warned about in Joel 2:1,2 about not dividing their land.

THE REBELLION OF KORAH: Wanted the glory, was jealous of Moses and led a rebellion with false accusations. See Gen. 16:1-3, 18-20. In Num. 16:32-35 we see the earth swallowed him alive and shut her mouth again.

How do we get rid of spots and blemishes? Jer. 3:13, acknowledge your sin. Lev. 26:40-42' If they shall confess their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have walked contrary unto me; And that I also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity: Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land. The land also shall be left of them, and shall enjoy her sabbaths, while she lieth desolate without them: and they shall accept of the punishment of their iniquity: because, even because they despised my judgments, and because their soul abhorred my statutes.

WRINKLES: Prov. 13:4 "The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat." Now read Heb. 10:38... "Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him." Ps. 119:70=72, "Their heart is as fat as grease; but I delight in thy law. It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes. The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver."

I took my notes from Mark Biltz's YouTube, Spots, Wrinkles and Blemishes and these notes will soon be available at For the day of trouble.org.